

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 15, 29, and 30 have been amended, claims 42-46 are added, and claims 28, 32-34, 39-41 are canceled herein. With entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17-21, 23-27, 29-30, 35-38, and 42-46 will be pending.

The courteous telephone interview granted applicants' undersigned attorney by Examiner Michael Simitoski on April 26, 2006 is hereby respectfully acknowledged. The claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101 were discussed and the Examiner suggested possible amendments to the claims and specification.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's allowance of claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10-11, 14, 18-21, 23-27, 35, and 37-38.

Claim 30, which was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, has been amended to include the limitations of base claim 28. Claim 30, as amended, is therefore submitted to be in proper form for allowance.

Claim 15 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claim 15, as amended, and claims 17 and 36, depending therefrom, are believed to be in proper form for allowance.

New claims 42 and 43 depend from allowed claims 8 and 18, respectively.

New claim 44 is an apparatus claim corresponding to allowed method claim 1 and is submitted as patentable for the same reasons as claim 1. New claims 45-46 depend from claim 44.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a

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telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application,
please do not hesitate to call the undersigned at (408) 399-5608.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Kaplan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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